



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Application of: Stephen Colvin et al.

Serial No. 09/198,087

Filed: November 23, 1998

PASSIVE KNOTLESS SUTURE SYSTEM
FOR USE IN MINIMALLY INVASIVE
SURGERY AND TO FACILITATE STANDARD
TISSUE SECURING TECHNIQUE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT

In response to the Official Action mailed July 22, 1999, please amend the above identified Application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claim 13 and add the following new claim:

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34/35. The suture securing apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the first internal surface of the aperture is generally round and having sufficient diameter to accommodate a suture threaded therethrough, and the second internal surface is formed by an acute angular narrowing in the second latitudinal direction.



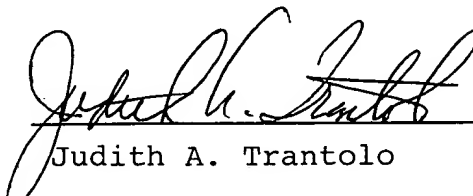
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